

III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE COMMANDING GENERAL'S GUIDANCE

2012 Guidance

1. Preparing to "fight tonight" on the Korean Peninsula
The unpredictable leadership regime in North Korea will continue to challenge our U.S. and Korean alliance; III MEF will focus on continually improving our ability to rapidly deploy to the Korean Peninsula, integrating into our combined force, and defeating North Korean aggression
2. Preparing to respond to crisis in theater
3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade will be the first out the door for our response; we need to be prepared for the unexpected. Priority focus will be placed on a major earthquake in Nepal
3. Preparing to reconstitute III MEF
The unit deployment program for units that have been assigned to OIF and OEF will restart in May 2012, and by August the MV-22 Osprey will begin replacing our aging CH-46s and CH-53s; we need to be prepared
4. Increasing our focus on force preservation
I want the MEF to focus in on reducing DUIs, alcohol-related incidents and illegal drug usage; all significantly degraded our readiness in 2011

2011 Guidance

1. Operational readiness – As PACOM's 911 Force – we will be ready today for today's crisis
 - One integrated air-ground team – our bases and stations are the 5th element
 - Strengthen our Naval ties; it's all about the blue-green team
 - Maintain an expeditionary mindset
2. Personal and family readiness – important force multipliers
 - Our Marines, sailors and families deserve the best; continually strive to raise the bar
 - Balance life, career and mission
3. Relationship with our host nation – more than 60 years of dedicated teamwork
 - We are guests – be good neighbors and treat everyone with respect and dignity
 - Conduct operations and activities in a manner that strengthen and leverage our alliance
4. Force protection and safety – planned into all operations and exercises as well as off-duty activities
 - Our mission is to be combat ready; safety enhances readiness
 - Our most valuable assets are the individual sailor and Marine, protect them
5. Leadership will be continuous at all levels – be visible and proactive
 - Ensure the commander's intent is clearly understood
6. Effective communications will drive our operations
 - Keep the chain of command informed; what do I know, who needs to know it, and have I told them
 - Be proactive in our strategic messaging – seize the initiative and control the narrative
7. Know your personal limitations; as well as limitations of your Marines and equipment – plan accordingly

8. Core values are your moral compass – always stay the course!
 - Professional, moral and ethical behavior is expected 24/7
 - Hazing in any form will not be tolerated
9. Know your basic military occupational specialty skills and perfect them – your teammates depend on you
10. Lost communications procedures or when in doubt:
 - Follow your commander's intent
 - Lead from the front and seize the initiative
 - Demonstrate responsibility and accountability